

**In the Claims:**

1.(currently amended) A cathode-ray tube having a luminescent screen on a faceplate panel and a tension focus mask assembly, wherein the tension focus mask comprises:

a rectangular mask frame having a pair of long sides and a pair of short sides;

a tension mask extending between the long sides, the tension mask having a pair of mask borders in the vicinity of at least one attachment point to each of the long sides;

the tension mask including a plurality of strands extending between the mask borders and a plurality of cross wires extending approximately perpendicular to the strands and being electrically insulated from the strands;

a ~~shield~~-sheath assembly having a sheath, a shield and at least one damping element;

the sheath having at least one flat section which is attached to the mask border by tabs extending through openings in the mask border and being positioned under the mask border to be in frictional contact with at least one of the mask strands;

the shield being positioned and secured over the mask border and the cross wires opposite the sheath and having an inner edge which overhangs the sheath and at least one of the mask strands to be precisely aligned with one of the mask strands, whereby the precisely aligned shield provides a precise last mask aperture and facilitates precise printing of last phosphor triads of the luminescent screen; and

the damping element attached to and protruding from the shield to reduce vibrations perpendicular to the mask.

2.(original) The tension mask assembly of claim 1 wherein the sheath runs substantially parallel to said strands.

3.(original) The tension mask assembly of claim 1 wherein the mask borders run substantially parallel to the cross wires and the mask borders ~~extent~~extend beyond the sheath.

4.(currently amended) A cathode-ray tube having a luminescent screen on a faceplate panel and a tension mask assembly, wherein the tension mask assembly comprises:

a pair of tension mask support blade members for supporting a tension mask;

the tension mask having a pair of mask borders each being fixed to a respective tension mask support blade member and a plurality of strands extending between the mask borders;

a plurality of cross wires extending generally perpendicular to the strands on a screen facing side and at least one ~~shield~~sheath assembly extending between and attached to the mask borders;

the ~~shield~~sheath assembly having a sheath extending along one side of the mask in contact with at least one strand; and

a shield attached to the cross wires of the mask in overlapping relation to the sheath.

5.(original) The tension mask assembly of claim 4 wherein the sheath is fixed to the mask borders by a plurality of tabs passing through openings in the mask border.

6.(original) The tension mask assembly of claim 4 further comprising a damping element being fixed to the shield and extending outward therefrom.